

## ONE MAN ONLY ADMITS RECALL CONNECTIONS

### HITHERTO ORPHAN CHILD GETS SPONSOR IN WILLIAM J. THOMSON OF VALE—MCKNIGHT DENIES CONNECTION WITH MOVEMENT

## IS BATTLE OF REACTIONARIES

### Same Group in Part at Least Which Sought Abolition of Farm Bureau Has Close Association With Present Movement

At least a sponsor for the recall movement which has been a mysterious child of rumor and speculation has been found in William J. Thomson of Vale. So far he is the only one involved in the effort who has the courage of his convictions and publicly admitted his association in the movement which is going to add some two or three thousand dollars to the expense of the county government this year.

Of course those who have followed events in this county do not believe that Mr. Thomson is the instigator of the movement. To them he is one who is doing the active work while they pull the strings. For Mr. Thomson admits the Argus' definition of the men behind the movement as practical politicians.

The air of mystery which has pervaded the entire movement is so great that it is but another confirmation of the well founded belief that it is a political frame up pure and simple, with the Eastern Oregon Land officials, William Jones, W. E. Lees, et al co-operating to bring about the removal of two officials whose views on matters of taxation and public policy do not square with their pet schemes.

The idea of the recallers is that this is the time to capitalize the discontent created by taxes due to increased levies made by the direct vote of the people for higher education, and for the common schools, and the increased levies made by direct appropriation of the legislature. They are acting on the belief that the people will not understand that the present county court has actually reduced the levies over which they have control, but will in a blind effort fall for their propaganda and remove the first man against whom a cry is raised, no matter how unjust it may be.

There is a general belief that the real purpose of the recall is to get control of the board of equalization, and to so control the county court this fall that no appropriation will be made for co-operation with the state and federal government for the Farm Bureau and County Agent work.

The men who are interesting themselves in this movement are the same men who attempted this spring to have county agent work abolished. They are the men whose range land was raised from \$1.25 to \$2.50 per acre. In fact for every one of the men who are actively behind Mr. Thomson in this movement a personal motive is present. To satisfy this personal grudge they would plunge the county into a costly recall election.

The calm assurance with which men of this type would recall two men and not name opposing candidates shows one of two things; either they could find no one who had courage enough to run, or they have belief that they can use the Governor's offices for their purpose.

The entire clique which is furthering this movement is the type that seeks no development in the county. It is the gang that would have this naught but a public range, the crowd that would abolish the bureau, would levy no tax for high school tuitions for boys and girls who live outside of districts where higher education can be obtained. In other words it is the big property interests opposed to the progress of the common people, of the small ranchers, of the boys and girls of Malheur county.

Of course they will deny this statement. That is to be expected, but every act of theirs declares their general attitude and their purpose. This is the enemy which the people of Malheur county have to fight in this recall.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Draper and family left last week in their car for an extended trip through California in the hope of benefiting Mr. Draper's health.

## Sheriff's Force Called Upon When Paul Joseph Obstructed Road Work

Paul Joseph of Lower Deer Flat fought to finish the construction of the Old Oregon Trail section of the Columbia River Highway, and he lost. The last stage of the contest against the road was featured last Saturday, when with two deputies from Sheriff Noe's office County Judge E. H. Test and J. F. Joyce, engineer for the state highway commission took a crew to the Joseph ranch and put the fence up along the right of way through the property.

In his effort to obstruct the construction of the road through his ranch Joseph used every possible strategy. He refused to entertain the arbitration proposal which prac-

## COMMISSIONER COREY HERE TO EXAMINATION VALUATION

With a battery of lawyers and engineers present to examine the valuations of the inventory presented by the Idaho Power company for the purposes of making it the basis of rates, Commissioner H. H. Corey of the Oregon Public Service Commission is holding a hearing here today. The Idaho Power company is represented by a corps of lawyers while City Attorney Lampert of Boise and Engineer Henriel of Kansas City are conducting the examination for the power users. Many ranchers from districts using power for pumping are present. The hearings are being held at the city hall.

## BROGAN-JAMIESON TO MARKET LARGE CROPS

### Plenty of Soft Fruits For Local Consumption and 100 Car Loads of Apples for Shipment—Buyers in Field Now

"The Brogan-Jamieson region is again preparing to harvest a bumper fruit crop. Though the area in fruit is comparatively small the crop for 1921 promises to be of the 100 per cent variety, not only in apples but in soft fruits as well," says Ivan E. Oakes, who returned Saturday from a trip through the Willow creek valley.

"For seven years the Brogan section has been producing fruits and has never yet had a failure due to frost, and this year is an excellent example of the protection which the air drainage of the valley furnishes," continued Mr. Oakes.

"While no sales of fruit have been reported in the valley there have been a number of buyers in the field, just as there have been in the Payette valley and here in Ontario, making offers for the crop. The prices offered have varied. Most of the offers have been for fruit shipped in bulk. For example, exclusive of Delicious, the prices offered have been about \$42.50. For Delicious higher offers have been made but no contracts, so far as I was able to learn, have been made.

Mr. Oakes predicts that the fruit crop of the valley will be about as follows: soft fruits, peaches eight or nine car loads, enough to supply the entire valley; apricots, cherries and prunes, a 100 per cent crop sufficient for local demands; apples about 100 car loads made up of the following varieties: Jonathans, Rome Beauties, Delicious, Winesaps, Grimes Golden, White Winter Pearmain and a few other varieties in small quantities.

## THE ARGUS NAMED A WINNER IN COUNTY PAPER CONTEST

In a contest for the best county weekly in Oregon viewed from the stand point of quantity and quality of news printed of interest to farm readers, the Argus was placed fifth by a committee named by the faculty of the school of Industrial Journalism of O. A. C. and the Agricultural committee of the Portland Chamber of Commerce. Nearly 100 Oregon weeklies were entered in the contest. The two Hood River papers were first, the Chieftan of Wallawa third, Observer at Dallas fourth and the Argus fifth. Three others were placed on the honor list. The Argus was the only paper in Southeastern Oregon so classified.

## PAYETTE MAN PURCHASES RUSSELL'S PANTORIUM

Though business changes have been few in Ontario of late one took place this week when Frank Duborko of Payette purchased from C. C. Russell the Pantorium which Mr. Russell has operated for a number of years. Mr. Duborko is well known in this section for he for many years operated a similar business in Emmett which he sold last year when he moved to Payette and purchased the Payette Press which he still owns. Mr. Russell does not intend to leave Ontario but has sold his business in order to give more time to his orchestra work.

tically all of the people in that section signed. He refused the offers made by the County Court, he refused to permit the engineers to enter the field, though they delayed until he could cut the crop, and finally, he flooded the field with the hay down to obstruct the work of the fence builders. He did this when he found that legal aid could not help his cause.

Judge Test, District Attorney Robert D. Lytle, the sheriff's deputies, the engineering crew and the fence gang made short work of the fence building work and crossed the entire field Saturday, and thus the last obstacle toward the completion of the road was removed.

## Judged by Fair Standard County Officials Have Made Good Record

Undoubtedly the men who are behind the recall movement in this county have a standard of public efficiency, whatever it may be. We wonder whether or not they in their private, or in their public acts would be willing to submit to the standard they apparently want adopted in this county? Are they such paragons of virtue and efficiency that they would set themselves up as examples?

We will admit that we do not know what their standard is, but we do know that judging by a fair and just standard there is no real reason for a recall.

What man or set of men is there,—the proponents of the recall included—who, were they to stand or fall upon one specific act, or on a group of acts, would escape condemnation?

On the other hand it is not true that while anyone may err in judgment on specific acts, that the only fair test of any man or men's record is the average of all his or their acts; the general purpose and aims or their individual or collective acts?

Judged by this standard then we declare there is no reason for a recall of E. H. Test and Frank M. Vines.

During their incumbency in the office the writer has been present at numerous meetings held for the consideration of public matters, has heard them discuss the details of many proposals, and knows from talks with both men and from their official acts they endeavored with all their power to promote the interests of the entire county, and not any particular section of it. Their record proves it.

Under their direction, and through co-operation with the State Highway Commission, which they took the first steps to secure, these are some of the things that have been accomplished;

The road from Brogan to Cow Valley has been built;  
The road from Cairo to Nyssa has been finished;  
The road from Jordan Valley this way for several miles has been built.

The surveys have been made from Nyssa to Adrian for the market road needed in that section, and will be finished when the State engineers furnish the necessary details;

Work has been started on the Old Oregon Trail from Ontario northward.

What other county east Malheur county has ever had can show such a record?

Judged by the only fair standard is not this a record that should be commended and not condemned?

Nor is this all:  
This same county court has secured the construction of the road from Vale to Jamieson, where one was needed for many many years, and has the promise of the early completion of the road from Jamieson to Brogan.

Again this is the county court that secured the new bridge at Vale, another needed improvement.

Again this is the county court that has the definite assurance of the construction of the Central Oregon Highway section from Vale to Burrell;

This is the county court that has reduced the levy for county purposes to a level lower than it has been for years. Consider all these things, what they mean to the county and to the people of these sections and then take into consideration that in the construction of all these roads, which when completed will entail the expenditure of nearly ONE MILLION DOLLARS and that for this great program Malheur County taxpayers will contribute less than one third; then we believe that any fair minded citizen who wants to continue capable men in office will give his or her approval for the work of the County Court and not allow himself to be used as a tool to satisfy the private grudges of a few malcontents.

No Bonds Sold at a Loss  
In the handling of the vast detail of all this business which is ten times greater than during the incumbency of any other Court in the history of Malheur County, no bond house has "put one over" on the county and secured the bonds for less than they were worth.

## CITIZENS REQUEST ROAD DISTRICT CHANGE

William Thomson, the only one of the recallers who seems to have the courage of his convictions, makes one specific charge that the Argus welcomes for it furnishes the opportunity to put the blame directly where it belongs; we refer to his statement that the county has been put into one road district and not many districts as it was for many years; This was done by the County Court, as Thomson should and probably does know, at the request of the Malheur Development League, at a meeting held at Vale on the night when the division of bond money to be voted upon for the Highway program was decided. It was done by the League representatives because it was believed that since many sections of the county were not on the state road program and would not be directly benefited by the bond issue, this was the one way to give them relief. One of the sections thus to be benefited was the Watson road concerning which Mr. Thomson registers objection to the work done.

Prior to this action there were road districts that had money lying idle. The people could not agree, in some cases, where the money was to be spent. As the result they never spent anything and continued to make objections to road conditions which the court could not remedy.

Whether right or wrong the County Court took this action at the request of a representative body of citizens. It was an attempt to solve a problem in a fair way. It was urged by the people interested. It was voted for by all of the members of the court. The blame, if any is due, belongs with all the court and with the men who proposed it. The Argus never favored it, but believing that since others wanted it, and had given the matter consideration, raised no objection believing that it was worthy of a trial.

Perhaps the most spurious of all the claims of the recallers is that made to the Argus' request for a reason for the fact that no candidates were named to oppose the present officials.

They declare it was thus that they wish to show that no sectionalism, or not party prejudice was being served. That sounds fine, high minded and all that, and is made to catch votes. For the recallers know that if they were themselves to enter the list the public would so emphatically repudiate them that:

## THEY DO NOT DARE TO BRING OUT CANDIDATES— THEY THEMSELVES DO NOT DARE TO RUN

The Argus believes that the recallers are insulting the voters of Malheur county in their failure to bring out candidates. The people of this county HAVE THE RIGHT TO KNOW WHO IS TO BE THE COUNTY JUDGE AND THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND WE BELIEVE THAT THEY WILL NOT SURRENDER THEIR SOVEREIGNTY AT THE BEHEST OF A CLIQUE OF DISGRUNTLED MALCONTENTS AND PRIVATE REVENGE SEEKERS.

The people of Malheur County are not willing to trade unsight and unseen, men who have demonstrated their purpose to serve all the county, to promote the good of all the county, to capably perform the duties of their offices, for the caprice of a clique to be exercised through the office of the Governor.

We say this in no reflection on the present occupant of the gubernatorial office. He cannot know Malheur county's problems, nor the capability of Malheur county men.

If in this instance we must abandon the sound common sense of the voters of Malheur County, let us once and for all surrender the supreme right of Americans, let us be Huns and submit to the Governor all the decisions of our local affairs.

But these recallers would only do this at this time for it is the bait upon which they would catch a few votes for their present purpose. It is their attempt to deceive the public. It was not made to be taken seriously.

The Argus believes that unless some man or set of men who have the courage to come forward with a definite program of improvement or whose outstanding character is such as to guarantee to the county a better administration of its affairs than it is having now, that it is unjust to people as well as to the present officials, to seek a recall at this time, or any other time. The people should remember that regardless of the returns this election now will cost the county about \$2000.

The recall was designed for emergencies and emergencies only. No emergency exists at this time, nor has one existed during the past two years. The vote, if one is ever taken, will demonstrate that fact. But it will cost the taxpayers \$2000.

## HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER AND ENGINEER VISIT HERE MONDAY

W. B. Barratt highway commissioner and Herbert Nunn, chief engineer of the commission were in Ontario Monday for a short time, coming here to start a trip over the John Day Highway to Prairie City and from thence to go to Klamath Falls to view the roads of that section. While here they viewed the proposed entrance of the Old Oregon Trail into the city and approved of it as the best route. This route would bring the road close to the river all the way to Oregon street. A Commercial Club committee also viewed the road this week and expressed approval of the revised plan.

## EMMETT WINS IN TEN INNINGS—SCORE 3-2

### Lowell Wells Takes Mound and Pitches Stellar Ball—Penson For Emmett Displays Class —Big Crowd Present

Before a crowd of nearly 1,000, the largest number gathered at any game of the Big Four league this season, Emmett defeated Ontario at Emmett Sunday by a score of 3 to 2 in ten innings. It was one of the best exhibitions of ball displayed in the league all season.

The local team was again shaken up, but never-the-less played stellar ball. Lowell Wells who has been utility man all season demonstrated his versatility by pitching the entire session. He held Emmett to seven hits in ten innings while the locals were able to touch Penson for eight safeties. Each pitcher yielded a two bager. Soran getting one off Wells while Smithie collected one on Penson.

Penson had a little the better of the luck for Emmett secured two safe hits in the tenth which sent over the winning run. Oliver, Ontario's new catcher proved almost as much of a find as did Wells, for beside catching stellar ball he connected for two hits. Roy Smith was the other Ontario who hit twice. Reece Jenkins playing short for Ontario in Chapman's place got off fairly well in view of the fact that it was his first game there.

## FORMER EDITOR OF ARGUS PASSES AWAY AT PORTLAND

Portland papers this week had the notice of the death of Don Carlos Boyd who with J. T. Clement founded the Argus here in 1900, and later consolidated it with the Mattock which was then published by G. L. King. Mr. Boyd was a native son of Baker and lived here for several years. He is survived by his wife and one son, Mrs. Edna Boyd and James Boyd who left Ontario recently to live in Medford.

## ONTARIO BUSINESS HOUSES TO CLOSE ON MONDAY, JULY 4

Although Ontario will not itself celebrate the Nation's Birthday, there will be plenty of Ontarians at the celebrations which will be staged at the neighboring towns. In order that everyone in town may get out and enjoy the day all the business houses will close that day and remain closed with the exception of the drug stores.

J. A. Lackness and family visited with friends in Nampa and Boise Saturday and Sunday, returning home Monday.

D. C. Anderberg underwent a surgical operation at the hospital Saturday for the removal of adenoids and tonsils.

Mrs. J. R. Gregg and children visited relatives at Caldwell last week.

Little Miss Helen Rice, who was operated on last week for the removal of adenoids and tonsils, is recovering nicely.

Will Butler and wife of Ontario and Frank Seaward and wife of Denio attended the funeral of Aleatha Blayney, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. I. V. Blayney at Caldwell Thursday. Miss Blayney was 14 years old. The cause of death being uremic poison after an illness of only 12 hours.

Mr. and Mrs. O. M. Castleman and daughter Barbara, and sister, Mrs. Bacon of Ft. Russell, Wyoming returned Friday from a trip through the Ironside Country and Blue Mountain Springs. Mrs. Bacon left Saturday for Portland.

## Nampa and Boise Foiled In Effort to Oust Locals From Big Four Ball League

Nampa's base ball manager, Hull, and the manager of the Boise team, failed in their effort to oust Ontario from the Big Four league due to the honorable action of the manager Jack Vinning of the Caldwell club and the manager of the Emmett club.

Both these men kept their word to Ontario despite the persistent effort of the Nampa man to deceive them and to double-cross Manager

## KEEN INTEREST SHOWN IN SCHOOL ELECTION

### NEARLY 400 VOTES CAST IN SHARP CONTEST BETWEEN TWO TICKETS—DR. W. J. WEESE AND W. L. TURNER RETURNED WINNERS

## ONE FACTION WELL ORGANIZED

### W. E. Lees and Mrs. Emma Conover Candidates Defeated by Margin of 40 Votes—Hustling For Votes Arouses Interest

In a spirited election during which farmers and women left bridge parties to exercise their franchise Dr. W. J. Weese was re-elected director of school district No. 8 and W. L. Turner was re-elected clerk Monday afternoon.

This result was not secured however without some hard fast work of the friends of the present board for the opposing ticket composed of W. E. Lees and Mrs. Emma Conover, respectively candidates for director and clerk went into the election with a solid support which for a time indicated that they would win. As it was the vote when counted showed, Weese 205, Lees 165; Turner 201, Mrs. Conover 167.

The first intimation that the election would be other than the prefatory gathering that has been held for years came Sunday when workers for the Lees-Conover ticket started a quiet canvass in the residence district. Word of their campaign was scattered along Oregon street Monday morning but little interest was shown until after dinner when it appeared that the effort was well organized and apparently would win. Then the friends of the present board and opponents of a change in the management of the schools got busy.

The first skirmish was won by the anti-Lees faction when they defeated the motion to close the polls at 3:30 and held them open until 5 o'clock. The ballot on this question was 101 to 79. Then the workers on both sides got busy and a hunt for votes began in earnest. During the short time remaining nearly 200 votes were gathered in with the result given above.

During the election some feeling was manifested but no untoward event took place. Many statements were made during the canvass that aroused opposition and aided in bringing out the crowd. W. W. Wood, president of the present board presided at the opening of the meeting and S. F. Taylor and C. F. Cox were the judges while Larue Blackaby and J. M. McDonald were the clerks.

Not in years has there been such interest in local election, many men and women too who have not been in the school building for years were present.

Mrs. Helen Struthers of Boise is in town today.

Mr. and Mrs. I. E. Oakes motored to Burns Monday.

Mrs. Van Petten and son Frank and Mrs. Roberts of Nyssa went to Payette Lakes Tuesday for a few days.

Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Rasmussen entertained the Fortnightly Club Saturday evening.

The Monday Bridge Club met this week with Mrs. Geo. K. Alken.

The Tuesday Bridge Club met at the home of Mrs. E. M. Greig.

Miss Marie Rasmussen returned today from Pocatello where she has been visiting relatives for a month. She was accompanied home by her cousin, Miss Eleanor Wheeler.

A. L. Cockrum accompanied Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Billingsley to Portland on their motor trip.

Mrs. P. J. Gallagher will entertain the Altar Society of the Catholic Church Friday.

Miss Wilma Miles left Saturday for the University of Washington for the summer term.

Mrs. H. R. Peterson returned Sunday from Portland where she was in attendance at Grand Lodge of the Eastern Star.

J. C. McCrea and Irwin Troxell attended the Implement and Hardware Dealers Convention at Caldwell last week.

H. G. Green of Portland of the Commerce Mortgage Security Company was in Malheur county during the latter part of last week going over the properties which his company recently acquired from the Mollie Farms Company.

H. B. Cready and wife have gone to Payette Lakes for a summer outing.

Mrs. S. H. Bender of Pendleton is visiting friends in Ontario.

T. H. Moore was in Boise on business the first of the week.

F. J. Clemo and the local directors. The air was cleared last Sunday at Emmett when after the best game Emmett has had this year, the Emmett men assured Mr. Clemo that they would attack by Burnside and would be here to play Sunday afternoon. Owing to the difference in time used in Ontario and Emmett the game will start promptly at 2 p. m. (our time) so that the Emmett men can get home before dark.